(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
9 September 2005 (09.09.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/083638 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: G06T 11/60, G06F 3/00

(21) International Application Number: PCT/SG2005/000035

(22) International Filing Date: 11 February 2005 (11.02.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
200400883-5 2 March 2004 (02.03.2004) SG

(71) Applicants and
(72) Inventors: LIM, Yuen Chen [SG/SG]; 11 Jalan Manis, Singapore 329246 (SG). TAN, Michelle Li Hua [SG/SG]; 11 Jalan Manis, Singapore 329246 (SG).

(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

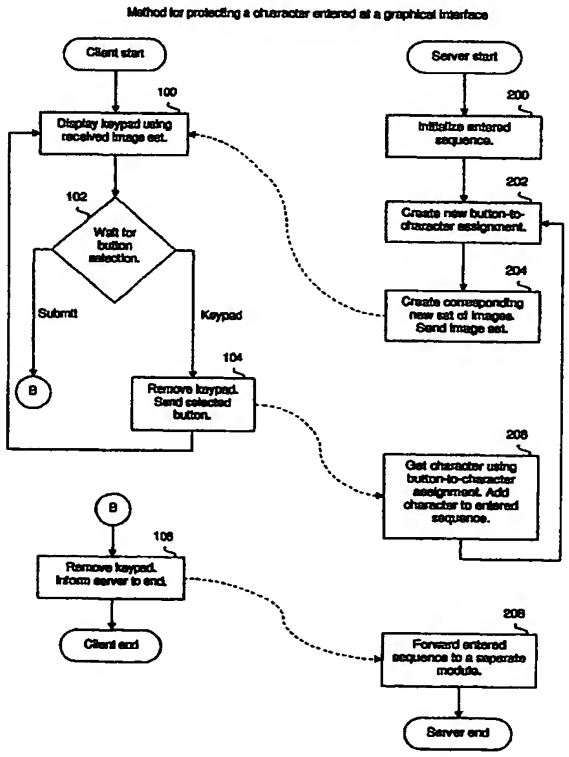
(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**
— *of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv)) for US only*

**Published:**
— *with international search report*

*[Continued on next page]*

(54) Title: METHOD FOR PROTECTING A CHARACTER ENTERED AT A GRAPHICAL INTERFACE




(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method for protecting a character entered at a graphical interface. The method comprises the steps of: generating a set of images that form a complete image of a keypad having a button-to-character assignment; displaying the graphical keypad using said image set; and, obtaining the character of a selected button using the button-to-character assignment. The inventive method can be repeated with a different button-to-character assignment in each repetition to obtain a sequence of characters. In consequence of the inventive method, the entered character is protected as monitoring software can capture merely unreadable portions of the complete keypad image. In furtherance of this purpose, the present invention also provides a method for generating a set of images from a complete image of a character belonging to a character set.

WO 2005/083638 A1

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*